

tion. To them a state of uncertainty is a state of confusion and peril, and they require to be steered by the strong hand of authority. Thus came the creeds, both written and unwritten, those depositories of some truth and some error, and we might also say, those wedges which have split the visible church into so many fragments.

There can be however no ultimate or lasting benefit arising from error, no matter how venerable and respectable it may be, and a candid abandonment of it would be the better course no matter how much temporary confusion might ensue. The complete intellectual emancipation of the church would produce, it seems to us, the best results, so that the conclusions of thorough research and competent learning would become more authoritative than the dicta of antiquated councils and antedated theologians. Error could not flourish so tropically in an atmosphere of intellectual and moral freedom, and if for awhile there should be some uncertainty and confusion, it would only be what was incidental to clearing away the rubbish and digging down to the solid rock, the true and eternal foundations upon which faith may rest.

May we not hope much for the broader culture of our day in the way of eliminating sectarian error and its concomitants of intolerance and spiritual pride? Indeed this is already manifest, in its beginnings, and to those philosophers who reckon ultimate results from steady tendency, the day does not appear to be many ages distant when traditional error will be dethroned, when learning and imperial candor, when love of the truth, shall eliminate sectarian perversions of scriptural doctrine, and there shall be one universal, spiritual, holy church, founded upon the certitudes of and old-new revelation, and ready to welcome her coming Lord.

Whether the triumph of truth shall arrive by this evolutionary road, or whether millennial light shall suddenly break upon the dim confusion of sectarian controversy, it is certain that truth will some day and in some way reach a finality of victory, and discord will forever disappear before the universal harmony of understanding Love.

Personal Mention

Brother Palmer reports two accessions at Roanoke, Ind.

Two more accessions are reported at Dayton by Brother Copp.

Brother Grisso speaks very earnestly on the subject of missions in this issue.

Brother Wirick reports two accessions at Syracuse, Ind., where he is pastor.

Brother J. S. Bowman reports four accessions at Arritts, Va., and the outlook very encouraging in his field of labor.

Brother Tombaugh recently spent a few days at Elk Lick, Pa., with Brother Mackey, and while there delivered an excellent address to a good audience.

In renewing his subscription, Brother Foust, Flora, Ind., says: "We could not get along without the EVANGELIST. It gets better all the time." Thanks, brother.

The attention of the young people is called to the announcement on another page by sister Mary Metzgar. Let all young people's societies fill out these blanks, and do it *at once*.

The missionary collection reported for North Georgetown, by Brother Heestand, should have been \$1.40 instead of \$3.48, the latter was the amount sent for literature.

On another page Brother Livengood tells very plainly and forcibly how we may accomplish more for God. *Being* more, we can *do* more. There is the secret of the whole matter.

According to Brother Gillin's report, the Williams-town school has the honor of having sent in the first report to the secretary. For once Ohio is ahead. Read what Brother Gillin has to say.

On Sunday evening July 10, when Brother Kimmel gave the invitation at his regular service at North Liberty, a man and wife came forward, gave themselves to God and requested baptism.

Brother Welty says he is canvassing his congregations and has the promise already of *fourteen* who will attend National Conference. We commend this service of Brother Welty and trust others will do likewise.

Brother Lyon keeps at it in Washington, regardless of the warm weather. The mission there is gradually growing in strength. Under the careful supervision of Brother Lyon, the foundation is being laid for a permanent work in that city.

We call special attention to the announcement on page 16 by Brother Miller, and also to an appeal to the brotherhood on this page in behalf of Ashland college. We trust the whole church will give these announcements the consideration they deserve.

On another page will be found a notice from the secretary of the Ministerial Association of the Brethren church, brother R. R. Teeter. All members of the Association should give the matter immediate attention. The dues are but twenty-five cents, and the secretary should not be required to send notices to individual members. Save him this extra work.

One of the busiest men just now (all the time for that matter) is Brother Yoder. He is taking work in the summer school at Winona, and the large amount of correspondence required in making proper arrangements for the coming Conference, together with his other work is keeping him very busy. Fortunately Brother Yoder is in love with work and it heartily agrees with him.

Thro an oversight we failed to call personal attention to the meeting now in progress at McAllisterville, Pa., under the leadership of such able men as Brethren Haskins, Koontz and Darling. During the pastor's absence the pulpit in Johnstown will be filled by Brethren Knepper and Mackey. May the Lord bless all these services to his own glory in the saving of many souls.

Patriotic Thanksgiving services were held in the Brethren church, Salisbury, Pa., Sabbath July 10. The pulpit and church were decorated with flags, and red, white and blue flowers. The pastor, J. C. Mackey, Ph. D., delivered an excellent sermon from the text: "The battle is the Lord's." Sister Anna Mae Smith, B. E., read the President's proclamation, and the choir rendered patriotic music. The house was full of grateful worshippers.

Notes and Comments

Source of Trouble. Whence is the source of trouble in a church? It comes, not from its activity. We have never known a congregation to get into any serious trouble among its membership that was about the Father's business. A church of consecrated men

and women has neither time nor inclination to quarrel. These words from the *Christian Standard* are to the point:

Most church troubles come thro spiritual inaction. The congregation which is reaching out to bless others, evangelizing its own territory and sending the gospel to the regions beyond, possesses the quality of running water—it purifies itself. Stagnation and many hideous creatures of decay come to still water and self-satisfied churches.

Give Them Christ.—The *Commonwealth* is right when it says:

There is a possibility of an excess of patriotism in church services at the present time, and by heated speech preachers may unwittingly incite a war spirit. In some churches pulpits are draped with the Stars and Stripes, and echoes of booming cannon are heard in every sermon. Statesmen and soldiers are made pulpit themes, and even war bulletins are a part of the evening program. Is all this wise, or necessary? We are not divided in supporting the government. No scent of disloyalty is anywhere found. The people who read three or four editions of the daily papers, and many of them Sunday editions, would be thankful for an hour of rest during the services, from the strife of tongues and rumors of battles and movement of troops.

AN EARNEST WORD

The attention of the readers of the EVANGELIST is called to the Announcement of the College on page 16.

The Brethren churches certainly have cause for great rejoicing in that the institution is freed from debt. It is the purpose of the Board of Trustees to thoroughly and efficiently equip every department of collegiate instruction. It is the imperative duty of our churches to make it possible for the Board to do this. To devise wise plans and to execute them will take some time and much labor.

Our Plans

The College will open Sept. 6. We have arranged to offer instruction in several courses of study. We know just what we are able to do and promise no more. Our students will not be disappointed.

A Plea

But we must have students. Will not our people everywhere be interested enough to send at least one student from each congregation? Many kind and encouraging letters have been received. But the one thing needed to assure the success of this work is your *positive help, your patronage*.

Our Loss

We have lost *time* and *men* by our delay in educational work; of the loss of time we are all aware and of the loss to the Brethren churches of men many of us have personal knowledge. If our cause is worth anything it is worthy of our very best effort and support; if it is not then we had far better abandon it. We must hold our own young people. Personal observation and the unimpeachable testimony of men of experience convince me that no one institution of any religious body so *holds its own young people and wins others to it as does the college*. To prevent, as far as possible, this one so great loss and to thereby strengthen our cause,—from this consideration alone I plead for your help and support. Send us students.

J. ALLEN MILLER,

Ashland, Ohio.